

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

In re Application of:

Urs HOELZLE et al.

Application No.: 09/734,886

Filed: December 13, 2000

For: HYPERTEXT BROWSER
ASSISTANT

) Mail Stop APPEAL BRIEF - PATENTS
)
) Group Art Unit: 2161
)
) Examiner: W. Amsbury
)
)

TRANSMITTAL FOR APPEAL BRIEF

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Appeal Brief in support of the Notice of Appeal filed
October 5, 2005.

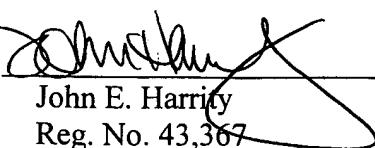
Enclosed is a check for \$250.00 \$500.00 to cover the Government fee.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any other appropriate fees that may be required by this paper that are not accounted for above, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1070.

Respectfully submitted,

HARRITY SNYDER, L.L.P.

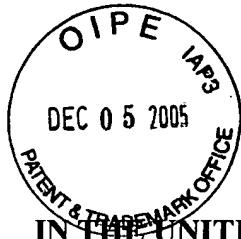
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Date: December 5, 2005



PATENT
Docket No. **0026-0005 (GP-004-91-US)**

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

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Application No.: 09/734,886) Group Art Unit: 2161
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APPEAL BRIEF

This Appeal Brief is submitted in response to the final Office Action, dated May 6, 2005, and in support of the Notice of Appeal, filed October 5, 2005.

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest in this appeal is Google Inc.

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II. RELATED APPEALS, INTERFERENCES, AND JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Appellants are unaware of any related appeals, interferences or judicial proceedings.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-61 are pending in this application. Claims 1-61 were finally rejected in the Office Action, dated May 6, 2005, and are the subject of the present appeal. These claims are reproduced in the Claim Appendix of this Appeal Brief.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

A Request for Reconsideration was filed subsequent to the final Office Action, dated May 6, 2005. An Advisory Action, dated August 31, 2005, indicated that the Request for Reconsideration was considered, but did not place the application in condition for allowance.

V. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

In the paragraphs that follow, each of the independent claims that is involved in this appeal and each dependent claim that is argued separately will be recited followed in parenthesis by examples of where support can be found in the specification and drawings.

Claim 1 recites a computer-implemented method for performing a search, comprising obtaining selection of one or more groups of characters in a document currently accessed by a user (620, Fig. 6; pg. 11, line 16, to pg. 12, line 5), the obtaining comprising highlighting the one or more groups of characters in the document (pg. 11, line 16, to pg. 12, line 3), and selecting a search object while the one or more groups of characters are highlighted in the document (pg. 12,

lines 4-5, pg. 9, lines 3-16); generating a search query using the selected one or more groups of characters in response to selecting the search object (630, Fig. 6; pg. 13, lines 7-8); retrieving search results based on the search query (pg. 13, lines 8-12); and presenting the search results to the user (660 and 670, Fig. 6; pg. 14, lines 3-6).

Claim 2 recites that the search object is located in at least one of a menu or toolbar (Fig. 4; pg. 9, lines 3-16).

Claim 3 recites that the obtaining selection includes receiving selection of a single group of characters in the document (pg. 11, lines 16-19).

Claim 4 recites that the generating a search query includes using the selected group of characters as a search term for the search query (pg. 13, lines 7-10).

Claim 5 recites that the obtaining selection includes receiving selection of a phrase in the document (pg. 11, lines 16-19).

Claim 6 recites that the generating a search query includes using the selected phrase as a single search term for the search query (pg. 13, lines 7-10).

Claim 7 recites that the generating a search query includes identifying words in the selected phrase, and creating the search query by combining the identified words (pg. 12, lines 8-13).

Claim 9 recites that the obtaining selection includes receiving selection of a paragraph in the document (pg. 11, lines 16-19).

Claim 20 recites a system for performing a search, comprising means for receiving selection of one or more groups of characters in a document currently displayed to a user in response to the one or more groups of characters in the document being highlighted and a search

object being selected while the one or more groups of characters in the document are highlighted (330, Fig. 3; pg. 11, line 16, to pg. 12, line 5); means for generating a search query using the selected one or more words (330, Fig. 3; pg. 13, lines 7-8); means for obtaining search results based on the search query (330, Fig. 3; pg. 13, lines 8-12); and means for providing the search results to the user (330, Fig. 3; pg. 14, lines 3-6).

Claim 21 recites a system for facilitating performance of a search, comprising a browser configured to retrieve a document and present the document to a user (320, Fig. 3; pg. 11, lines 11-13); and a browser assistant configured to detect selection of one or more groups of characters in the document in response to the one or more groups of characters in the document being highlighted and a search object being selected while the one or more groups of characters in the document are highlighted, generate a search query from the selected one or more groups of characters, retrieve search results based on the search query, and present the search results to the user (330, Fig. 3; pg. 11, line 16, to pg. 14, line 6).

Claim 22 recites a web browser embodied in a computer-readable medium, comprising instructions for identifying a document (610, Fig. 6; pg. 11, lines 5-15); instructions for obtaining selection of one or more groups of characters in the document in response to the one or more groups of characters in the document being highlighted and a search object being selected while the one or more groups of characters in the document are highlighted (620, Fig. 6; pg. 11, line 16, to pg. 12, line 5); instructions for generating a search query from the selected one or more groups of characters (630, Fig. 6; pg. 13, lines 7-8); instructions for obtaining search results based on the search query (660, Fig. 6; pg. 14, lines 3-6); and instructions for providing the search results (670, Fig. 6; pg. 14, lines 3-6).

Claim 23 recites a computer-readable medium that stores instructions executable by at least one processor to perform a method for executing a search, comprising instructions for detecting selection of one or more groups of characters in a document currently accessed by a user in response to the one or more groups of characters in the document being highlighted and a search object being selected while the one or more groups of characters in the document are highlighted (620, Fig. 6; pg. 11, line 16, to pg. 12, line 5); instructions for generating a search query using the selected one or more groups of characters (630, Fig. 6; pg. 13, lines 7-8); instructions for retrieving search results based on the search query (660, Fig. 6; pg. 14, lines 3-6); and instructions for presenting the search results to the user (670, Fig. 6; pg. 14, lines 3-6).

Claim 24 recites a method for performing a search in a network that includes a client and a server (Fig. 1), comprising obtaining, by the client, selection of one or more groups of characters in a document currently accessed by a user in response to the one or more groups of characters in the document being highlighted and a search object being selected while the one or more groups of characters in the document are highlighted (110, Fig. 1; 620, Fig. 6; pg. 11, line 16, to pg. 12, line 5); generating, by the client, a search query using the selected one or more groups of characters (110, Fig. 1; 630, Fig. 6; pg. 13, lines 7-8); generating, by the server, search results based on the search query (120, Fig. 1; 650, Fig. 6; pg. 13, lines 11-12); obtaining, by the client, the search results from the server (110, Fig. 1; 660, Fig. 6; pg. 14, lines 3-6); and presenting, by the client, the search results to the user (110, Fig. 1; 670, Fig. 6; pg. 14, lines 3-6).

Claim 25 recites a method for prefetching documents associated with a search, comprising identifying a document that includes one or more links, each of the links corresponding to a linked document (820, Fig. 8; pg. 16, lines 16-19); analyzing each of the links

in the document (820, Fig. 8; pg. 16, lines 16-19); determining a score for each of the links (pg. 17, line 7, to pg. 19, line 4); and prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores (840, Fig. 8; pg. 19, lines 5-10).

Claim 28 recites receiving selection of one of the links in the document (850, Fig. 8; pg. 19, lines 16-18); determining whether the selected link corresponds to one of the prefetched documents (pg. 19, lines 18-20); and providing the one prefetched document when the selected link corresponds to the one prefetched document (860, Fig. 8; pg. 19, lines 18-20).

Claim 29 recites retrieving the linked document corresponding to the selected link from a server when the selected link does not correspond to one of the prefetched documents (pg. 19, line 20, to pg. 20, line 2).

Claim 31 recites that the prefetching includes using the address lookup to prefetch the linked documents corresponding to the number of the links (pg. 19, lines 9-10).

Claim 32 recites that the prefetching includes prefetching the linked documents corresponding to all of the links in the document (pg. 19, lines 13-15).

Claim 33 recites that the determining a score includes for each of the linked documents, determining scores for one or more linking documents that contain links to the linked document (pg. 17, lines 7-14), determining a score for each of the linked documents based on the scores of the one or more linking documents (pg. 17, lines 7-14), and associating the determined scores for the linked documents with the corresponding links (pg. 17, lines 7-14).

Claim 34 recites that the determining a score includes determining a clickthrough rate for each of the linked documents, determining a score for each of the linked documents based on the determined clickthrough rates, and associating the determined scores for the linked documents

with the corresponding links (pg. 17, lines 15-19).

Claim 35 recites that the determining a score includes determining a popularity of each of the linked documents, determining a score for each of the linked documents based on the determined popularity, and associating the determined scores for the linked documents with the corresponding links (pg. 17, line 20, to pg. 18, line 3).

Claim 36 recites that the determining a popularity includes for each of the linked documents, determining a popularity of a web site containing the linked document, and associating the popularity of the web site to the linked document (pg. 17, line 20, to pg. 18, line 3).

Claim 42 recites a system for prefetching documents associated with a search, comprising a browser configured to retrieve a document that includes one or more links, each of the links corresponding to a linked document (320, Fig. 3; pg. 16, lines 12-13); and a browser assistant configured to identify each of the links in the document, determine a score for each of the identified links, and prefetch a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the identified links based on the determined scores (330, Fig. 3; pg. 16, line 16, to pg. 19, line 10).

Claim 43 recites a web browser embodied in a computer-readable medium, comprising instructions for identifying a document that includes one or more links, each of the links corresponding to a linked document (810, Fig. 8; pg. 16, lines 12-13); instructions for identifying each of the links in the document (820, Fig. 8; pg. 16, lines 16-17); instructions for determining a score for each of the identified links (pg. 16, line 17, line 7, to pg. 19, line 4); and instructions for prefetching the linked documents corresponding to a number of the identified links based on the determined scores (840, Fig. 8; pg. 19, lines 9-10).

Claim 44 recites a computer-readable medium that stores instructions executable by at least one processor to perform a method for prefetching documents associated with a search, comprising instructions for obtaining search results that include one or more links, each of the links corresponding to a linked document (810, Fig. 8; pg. 16, lines 12-13); instructions for analyzing each of the links (820, Fig. 8; pg. 16, lines 16-17); instructions for determining a score for each of the links (pg. 16, line 17, to pg. 19, line 4); and instructions for prefetching the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores (840, Fig. 8; pg. 19, lines 9-10).

Claim 45 recites a method for prefetching documents associated with a search in a network that includes a client and a plurality of servers, comprising requesting, by the client, a document that includes one or more links, each of the links corresponding to a linked document (810, Fig. 8; pg. 16, lines 6-15); providing, by one of the servers, the requested document to the client (pg. 16, lines 8-11); analyzing, by the client, each of the links in the requested document (820, Fig. 8; pg. 16, lines 16-17); determining, by the client, a score for each of the links (pg. 16, line 17, to pg. 19, line 4); requesting, by the client, a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores (840, Fig. 8; pg. 19, lines 9-15); and providing, by one or more of the servers, the requested linked documents to the client (840, Fig. 8; pg. 19, lines 9-15).

Claim 46 recites a computer-implemented method for supplementing a document with links to related documents, comprising analyzing a document to identify one or more pieces of information (920, Fig. 9; pg. 20, lines 13-15); determining a link to a related document for each of the identified pieces of information by performing a search of a set of documents based on

each of the identified pieces of information (930, Fig. 9; pg. 20, line 17, to pg. 21, line 10); and adding the links to the document (940, Fig. 9; pg. 21, line 17, to pg. 22, line 1).

Claim 47 recites that the pieces of information include at least one of a name, a product, a publication, or a key phrase (pg. 20, lines 13-15).

Claim 48 recites that when the pieces of information include one or more names, the determining a link includes for each of the names, identifying one or more related documents that include a link associated with the name, and determining one or more links corresponding to the identified documents (pg. 20, line 13, to pg. 21, line 16).

Claim 49 recites that when the pieces of information include information regarding one or more products, the determining a link includes for each of the products, identifying one or more related documents associated with at least one of a producer, a seller, or a review of the product, and determining one or more links corresponding to the identified documents (pg. 20, line 13, to pg. 21, line 16).

Claim 50 recites that when the pieces of information include information regarding one or more publications, the determining a link includes for each of the publications, identifying one or more related documents that include the publication, and determining one or more links corresponding to the identified documents (pg. 20, line 13, to pg. 21, line 16).

Claim 51 recites that when the pieces of information include one or more key phrases, the determining a link includes for each of the key phrases, identifying one or more related documents that include the key phrase, and determining one or more links corresponding to the identified documents (pg. 20, line 13, to pg. 21, line 16).

Claim 54 recites that the adding the links includes modifying the document to include the

links (pg. 21, line 17, to pg. 22, line 1).

Claim 55 recites that the adding the links includes providing a separate document that includes the links (pg. 22, lines 4-9).

Claim 56 recites a system for supplementing a document with links to related documents, comprising a browser configured to identify a document (320, Fig. 3; pg. 20, lines 5-13); and a browser assistant configured to analyze the document to identify one or more pieces of information, determine a link to a related document for each of the identified pieces of information by performing a search of a set of documents based on each of the identified pieces of information, and provide the determined links with the document (330, Fig. 3; pg. 20, line 13, to pg. 21, line 16).

Claim 57 recites a web browser embodied in a computer-readable medium, comprising instructions for identifying a document (910, Fig. 9; pg. 20, lines 5-13); instructions for analyzing the document to identify one or more pieces of information (920, Fig. 9; pg. 20, lines 13-16); instructions for determining a link to a related document for each of the identified pieces of information by performing a search of a set of documents based on each of the identified pieces of information (930, Fig. 9; pg. 20, line 17, to pg. 21, line 10); instructions for presenting the document with the determined links to a user (950, Fig. 9; pg. 22, lines 1-9).

Claim 58 recites a computer-readable medium that stores instructions executable by at least one processor to perform a method for supplementing a document with links to related documents, comprising instructions for identifying one or more pieces of information in the document (920, Fig. 9; pg. 20, lines 13-16); instructions for determining a link to a related document for each of the identified pieces of information by performing a search of a set of

documents using each of the identified pieces of information (930, Fig. 9; pg. 20, line 17, to pg. 21, line 10); and instructions for providing the determined links with the document (950, Fig. 9; pg. 22, lines 1-9).

Claim 59 recites a method for supplementing a document with links to related documents in a network that includes a client and a server, comprising requesting, by the client, a document (pg. 20, lines 5-10); providing, by the server, the requested document to the client (pg. 20, lines 5-13); analyzing, by the client, the requested document to identify one or more pieces of information (920, Fig. 9; pg. 20, lines 13-16); determining, by the client, a link to a related document for each of the identified pieces of information by performing a search of a set of documents based on each of the identified pieces of information (930, Fig. 9; pg. 20, line 17, to pg. 21, line 10); and modifying, by the client, the requested document to include the links (940, Fig. 9; pg. 21, line 17, to pg. 22, line 1).

Claim 60 recites a hypertext browser assistant embodied in a computer-readable medium, comprising instructions for detecting selection of one or more words in a document currently accessed by a user (620, Fig. 6; pg. 12, lines 4-8); instructions for generating a search query using the selected one or more words (630, Fig. 6; pg. 13, lines 7-8); instructions for retrieving a document based on the search query (pg. 13, lines 11-17); instructions for identifying one or more pieces of information in the document (920, Fig. 9; pg. 20, lines 13-16); instructions for determining a link to a related document for each of the identified pieces of information by performing a search of a set of documents based on each of the identified pieces of information (930, Fig. 9; pg. 20, line 17, to pg. 21, line 10); instructions for adding the links to the document (940, Fig. 9; pg. 21, line 17, to pg. 22, line 1); instructions for prefetching a number of the related

documents corresponding to a number of the links (840, Fig. 8; pg. 19, lines 9-15); and instructions for presenting the document to the user (950, Fig. 9; pg. 22, lines 1-3).

Claim 61 recites method for facilitating a search, comprising detecting selection of one or more words in a document currently accessed by a user (620, Fig. 6; pg. 12, lines 4-8); generating a search query using the selected one or more words (630, Fig. 6; pg. 13, lines 7-8); retrieving a document based on the search query, the document including one or more links corresponding to a linked document (pg. 13, lines 11-17); analyzing each of the links (820, Fig. 8; pg. 16, lines 16-19); prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links (840, Fig. 8; pg. 19, lines 9-15); presenting the document to the user (pg. 19, lines 16-17); receiving selection of one of the links (850, Fig. 8; pg. 19, lines 16-18); retrieving the linked document corresponding to the selected link (860, Fig. 8; pg. 19, line 18, to pg. 20, line 2); identifying one or more pieces of information in the retrieved document (920, Fig. 9; pg. 20, lines 13-16); determining a link to a related document for each of the identified pieces of information by performing a search of a set of documents based on each of the identified pieces of information (930, Fig. 9; pg. 20, line 17, to pg. 21, line 10); and providing the determined links with the related document to the user (950, Fig. 9; pg. 22, lines 1-9).

VI. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

A. Claims 1-6 and 9-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as incomplete for omitting essential structural cooperative relationships of elements.

B. Claims 25-33 and 37-45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Bharat et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,112,203).

C. Claims 1, 3-6, 20-33, and 37-45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Kleinberg (U.S. Patent No. 6,112,202).

D. Claims 34-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Bharat et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,112,203).

E. Claims 2, 7-19, 34-36, and 46-61 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kleinberg (U.S. Patent No. 6,112,202) in view of Liddy et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,963,940).

VII. ARGUMENTS

A. **The rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, should be reconsidered and withdrawn.**

1. Claims 1-6 and 9-24.

Claim 1 recites a computer-implemented method for performing a search, comprising obtaining selection of one or more groups of characters in a document currently accessed by a user, where the obtaining comprises highlighting the one or more groups of characters in the document, and selecting a search object while the one or more groups of characters are highlighted in the document; generating a search query using the selected one or more groups of characters in response to selecting the search object; retrieving search results based on the search query; and presenting the search results to the user. With respect to this claim, the final Office Action alleges that "[t]here is no nexus between the search object selected 'while the one or more groups of characters in the document are highlighted' [emphasis added] in the independent claims in this group. In particular, the selected search object is not stated to be one of, nor dependent on, nor associated with, the highlighted groups" (final Office Action, pg. 6).

Appellants submit that the search object may or may not be dependent on or associated with the highlighted one or more groups of characters. It is well established that claims are not to be read in a vacuum, but rather should be read in light of Appellants' Specification. As set forth in Appellants' Specification, the search object may, for example, correspond to a button on a toolbar or a menu item and the selection of this search object causes a search query to be generated using the selected one or more groups of characters (see, for example, page 12 of Appellants' Specification, which clearly describes that the browser assistant may detect the selection of a word, phrase, paragraph, etc. in response to an action by the user and page 9 of Appellants' Specification, which clearly describes that tool bar 410 includes software buttons and/or menus selectable by a user to initiate different operations by the browser assistant). So, for example, a user may highlight one or more groups of characters in a document and select (e.g., click) a search object, such as, for example, a button or menu item, to cause the browser assistant to generate a search query using the highlighted one or more groups of characters. These features are supported by Appellants' Specification and broadly covered by Appellants' claim 1.

Therefore, the search object may not be dependent on or associated with the highlighted one or more groups of characters. Instead, the search object may, for example, be associated with a browser that presents the document in which the one or more groups of characters are highlighted to the user (see, for example, Appellants' Fig. 4). Contrary to the final Office Action's position, the fact that the selected search object is not specifically recited as being dependent on or associated with the highlighted one or more groups of characters does not render this claim incomplete for omitting essential structural cooperative relationships.

Further with respect to this rejection, the final Office Action alleges that "[d]ependent claims 4-17 support the interpretation that what is described on page 12 [of Appellants' Specification] is the derivation of a query, not an object distinct from the query" (final Office Action, pg. 2). Appellants respectfully disagree.

As set forth above, selection of the recited search object causes a search query to be generated. This is clearly recited in claim 1 - "generating a search query using the selected one or more groups of characters in response to selecting the search object" (emphasis added) and clearly supported by Appellants' Specification.

Appellants submit that one skilled in the art would readily appreciate the interrelationship between the highlighted one or more groups of characters and the search object. The allegation that claim 1 omits essential structural cooperative relationships is without merit.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claims 1-6 and 9-24 be reversed.

B. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Bharat et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,112,203) should be reversed.

The initial burden of establishing a *prima facie* basis to deny patentability to a claimed invention always rests upon the Examiner. In re Oetiker, 977 F.2d 1443, 24 USPQ2d 1443 (Fed. Cir. 1992). A proper rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 requires that a single reference teach every aspect of the claimed invention either explicitly or impliedly. Any feature not directly taught must be inherently present. Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California, 814 F.2d 628, 2 USPQ2d 1051 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

1. Claims 25-27, 30, 33, 37-41, 43, and 44.

Independent claim 25 is directed to a method for prefetching documents associated with a search. The method includes identifying a document that includes one or more links, where each of the links corresponds to a linked document; analyzing each of the links in the document; determining a score for each of the links; and prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores. Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest this combination of features.

For example, Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores for the links. The final Office Action relies on col. 3, lines 17-20, of Bharat et al. as allegedly disclosing this feature (final Office Action, pg. 2). Appellants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's interpretation of Bharat et al.

At col. 3, lines 16-20, Bharat et al. discloses:

A subset of documents, for example thirty, represented by the highest scoring nodes in the start-set are selected to form an expanded query topic. The topic is formed by concatenating the first, for example, one thousand words from each of the selected documents.

This section of Bharat et al. discloses that a subset of documents from a start set, which is a set of documents retrieved by a search engine in response to a search query, can be selected to form an expanded query topic. This section of Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores for the links, as required by claim 25. In fact, this section of Bharat et al. in no way relates to prefetching documents. Instead, this section of Bharat et al. merely uses a subset of a group of documents retrieved in response to a search query to expand a query topic.

Further with respect to this feature, the final Office Action alleges "in the passage cited [COL 3 lines 17-20], a subset of the start set, 'for example thirty, represented by the highest scoring nodes' refers to scores determined according to their connectivity [COL 3 lines 10-15]" (final Office Action, pg. 3). Regardless of the veracity of this allegation, the final Office Action does not explain how selecting a group of documents for forming an expanded query topic, as disclosed by Bharat et al., in any way relates to prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores for the links, as required by claim 25. Clearly, one skilled in the art at the time of Appellants' invention would readily appreciate that selecting a group of documents for forming an expanded query topic cannot be reasonably construed as equivalent to prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores for the links, as recited in claim 25.

At col. 3, lines 10-15, Bharat et al. discloses:

The nodes in the start set are first scored according to their connectivity, and the number of terms of the query that appear as unique sub-strings in the URL of the represented documents. The score is a weighted sum of the number of directed edges to and from a node and the number of unique sub-strings of the URL that match a query term.

This section of Bharat et al. discloses scoring nodes in the first set. This section of Bharat et al. in no way discloses or suggests prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores for the links, as required by claim 25. In fact, this section of Bharat et al. does not even relate to prefetching documents.

The final Office Action further alleges "the start set is explicitly *fetched* [COL 4 line 67 and after] prior to extraction of the hyperlinks and other operations, and use of the connectivity is

noted at the COL 3 lines 17-20 cited in order to prune the pages for further processing [COL 5 lines 26-37]" (final Office Action, pg. 3). This allegation does not address the above feature recited in claim 25.

Claim 25 does not recite fetching documents in a start set, as the final Office Action's allegation suggests. Instead, claim 25 specifically recites prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores for the links. Bharat et al. discloses producing a set of documents by combining the set of results from a web search engine in response to a search query with pages that either link to or are linked from the start set documents and scoring the documents in the start set (see col. 3, lines 3-13). Bharat et al. further discloses selecting a subset of documents in the start set based on their scores to form an expanded query topic. Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest that the selected subset of documents is prefetched, as required by claim 25.

The final Office Action does not point to any section of Bharat et al. that discloses or suggests prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores for the links, as recited in claim 25.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Bharat et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claims 25-27, 30, 33, 37-41, 43, and 44 be reversed.

2. Claim 28.

Claim 28 depends from claim 25. Therefore, claim 28 is not anticipated by Bharat et al. for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 25. Moreover, claim 28 recites additional features not disclosed or suggested by Bharat et al.

Claim 28 recites receiving selection of one of the links in the document, determining whether the selected link corresponds to one of the prefetched documents, and providing the one prefetched document when the selected link corresponds to the one prefetched document. At the outset, Appellants submit that since Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores for the links, Bharat et al. cannot disclose or suggest the above features of claim 28.

Nevertheless, with respect to claim 28, the final Office Action alleges "Bharat provides for both selection of one of the prefetched documents [claim 28] and related documents [claim 29]" (final Office Action, pg. 5). Appellants respectfully submit that the features recited in Appellants' claim 28 have been mischaracterized.

Claim 28 does not recite selection of one of the prefetched documents, as alleged in the final Office Action. Instead, claim 28 specifically recites receiving selection of one of the links in the document, determining whether the selected link corresponds to one of the prefetched documents, and providing the one prefetched document when the selected link corresponds to the one prefetched document. The final Office Action does not address the features of claim 28. As such, a *prima facie* basis for denying patentability has not been established with respect to claim 28.

Further with respect to claim 28, the final Office Action alleges "[w]ith respect to the elements of claims 28-29, they correspond to simply providing a prefetched document as in Bharat because providing a document located through a link inherently requires accessing the link, following the link to the document, and then retrieving it" (final Office Action, pg. 4). Appellants submit that this allegation does not address the specific features recited in claim 28.

While accessing a document through a link may involve selection of the link, following the link to the document, and then retrieving the document, these acts in no way inherently include determining whether the selected link corresponds to one of the prefetched documents, as specifically required by claim 28. The final Office Action does not address this feature of claim 28. As such, the final Office Action does not provide a *prima facie* basis for denying patentability with respect to claim 28.

For at least these additional reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Bharat et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 28 be reversed.

3. Claim 29.

Claim 29 depends from claim 28. Therefore, claim 29 is not anticipated by Bharat et al. for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 28. Moreover, claim 29 recites an additional feature not disclosed or suggested by Bharat et al.

Claim 29 recites retrieving the linked document corresponding to the selected link from a server when the selected link does not correspond to one of the prefetched documents. At the outset, Appellants submit that since Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores for the links, Bharat et al. cannot disclose or suggest the above feature of claim 29.

Nevertheless, with respect to claim 29, the final Office Action alleges "Bharat provides for both selection of one of the prefetched documents [claim 28] and related documents [claim 29]" (final Office Action, pg. 5). Appellants respectfully submit that the feature recited in Appellants' claim 29 has been mischaracterized.

Claim 29 does not recite selection of related documents, as alleged in the final Office Action. Instead, claim 29 recites retrieving the linked document corresponding to the selected link from a server when the selected link does not correspond to one of the prefetched documents. The final Office Action does not address the feature recited in claim 29. As such, a *prima facie* basis for denying patentability has not been established with respect to claim 29.

Further with respect to claim 29, the final Office Action alleges "[w]ith respect to the elements of claims 28-29, they correspond to simply providing a prefetched document as in Bharat because providing a document located through a link inherently requires accessing the link, following the link to the document, and then retrieving it" (final Office Action, pg. 4). Appellants submit that this allegation does not address the specific feature recited in claim 29.

While accessing a document through a link may involve selection of the link, following the link to the document, and then retrieving the document, these acts in no way inherently include retrieving the linked document corresponding to the selected link from a server when the selected link does not correspond to one of the prefetched documents, as specifically required by claim 29. The final Office Action does not address this feature of claim 29. Accordingly, a *prima facie* basis for denying patentability has not been established for claim 29.

For at least these additional reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Bharat et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 29 be reversed.

4. Claim 31.

Claim 31 depends indirectly from claim 25. Therefore, claim 31 is not anticipated by Bharat et al. for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 25. Moreover, claim 31

recites an additional feature not disclosed or suggested by Bharat et al.

Claim 31 recites that the prefetching includes using an address lookup to prefetch the linked documents corresponding to the number of the links. At the outset, Appellants submit that since Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores for the links, Bharat et al. cannot disclose or suggest the above feature of claim 31.

Nevertheless, with respect to claim 31, the final Office Action alleges "the use of a URL inherently involves an address lookup" (final Office Action, pg. 5). Appellants respectfully submit that the feature recited in Appellants' claim 31 has been mischaracterized.

Claim 31 does not recite performing an address lookup for a URL, as alleged in the final Office Action. Instead, claim 31 specifically recites using an address lookup to prefetch the linked documents corresponding to the number of the links. The final Office Action does not address the feature recited in claim 31. As such, the final Office Action has not established a *prima facie* basis for denying patentability with respect to claim 31.

For at least these additional reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Bharat et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection be reversed.

5. Claim 32.

Claim 32 depends from claim 25. Therefore, claim 32 is not anticipated by Bharat et al. for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 25. Moreover, claim 32 recites an additional feature not disclosed or suggested by Bharat et al.

Claim 32 recites that the prefetching includes prefetching the linked documents

corresponding to all of the links in the document. At the outset, Appellants submit that since Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores for the links, Bharat et al. cannot disclose or suggest the above feature of claim 32.

Nevertheless, with respect to claim 32, the final Office Action alleges "nothing in Bharat precludes prefetching all of the links in a Web page, since *subset* includes an entire set as a possibility" (final Office Action, pg. 5). The final Office Action has not pointed to any section of Bharat et al. that discloses prefetching the linked documents corresponding to all of the links in a document, as required by claim 32. As such, a *prima facie* basis for denying patentability has not been established with respect to claim 32.

For at least these additional reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Bharat et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 32 be reversed.

6. Claim 42.

Claim 42 is directed to a system for prefetching documents associated with a search. The system includes a browser configured to retrieve a document that includes one or more links, where each of the links corresponds to a linked document; and a browser assistant configured to identify each of the links in the document, determine a score for each of the identified links, and prefetch a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the identified links based on the determined scores. Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest this combination of features.

For example, Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest a browser assistant configured to

prefetch a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the identified links based on the determined scores. With respect to this feature, the final Office Action alleges "[t]he elements of claim 39-40 and 42-45 are rejected in the analysis above and this claim is rejected on that basis" (final Office Action, pg. 5). At the outset, Appellants note that claims 25-33 and 37-41 do not recite a browser assistant. Moreover, the final Office Action has not pointed to any section of Bharat et al. that discloses a browser assistant. Therefore, a *prima facie* basis for denying patentability has not been established with respect to claim 42.

Nevertheless, with respect to claim 25, the final Office Action relies on col. 3, lines 17-20, of Bharat et al. as allegedly disclosing prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores (final Office Action, pg. 4). Appellants respectfully submit that this section of Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest a browser assistant configured to prefetch a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the identified links based on the determined scores, as recited in claim 42.

At col. 3, lines 16-20, Bharat et al. discloses:

A subset of documents, for example thirty, represented by the highest scoring nodes in the start-set are selected to form an expanded query topic. The topic is formed by concatenating the first, for example, one thousand words from each of the selected documents.

This section of Bharat et al. discloses that a subset of documents from a start set, which is a set of documents retrieved by a search engine in response to a search query, can be selected to form an expanded query topic. This section of Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest a browser assistant. Moreover, this section of Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest a browser assistant configured to prefetch a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the identified links based on the determined scores, as required by claim 42. In fact, this section of

Bharat et al. in no way relates to prefetching documents. Instead, this section of Bharat et al. merely uses a subset of a group of documents retrieved in response to a search query to expand a query topic.

Further with respect to the above feature recited in claim 25, the final Office Action alleges "in the passage cited [COL 3 lines 17-20], a subset of the start set, 'for example thirty, represented by the highest scoring nodes' refers to scores determined according to their connectivity [COL 3 lines 10-15]" (final Office Action, pg. 3). Regardless of the veracity of this allegation, the final Office Action does not explain how selecting a group of documents for forming an expanded query topic, as disclosed by Bharat et al., in any way relates to a browser assistant configured to prefetch a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the identified links based on the determined scores, as required by claim 42. Clearly, one skilled in the art at the time of Appellants' invention would readily appreciate that selecting a group of documents for forming an expanded query topic cannot be reasonably construed as equivalent to prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the identified links based on the determined scores, as recited in claim 42.

At col. 3, lines 10-15, Bharat et al. discloses:

The nodes in the start set are first scored according to their connectivity, and the number of terms of the query that appear as unique sub-strings in the URL of the represented documents. The score is a weighted sum of the number of directed edges to and from a node and the number of unique sub-strings of the URL that match a query term.

This section of Bharat et al. discloses scoring nodes in the first set. This section of Bharat et al. in no way discloses or suggests a browser assistant configured to prefetch a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the identified links based on the determined scores, as

required by claim 42. In fact, this section of Bharat et al. does not even relate to prefetching documents.

The final Office Action further alleges with respect to the above feature of claim 25 that "the start set is explicitly *fetched* [COL 4 line 67 and after] prior to extraction of the hyperlinks and other operations, and use of the connectivity is noted at the COL 3 lines 17-20 cited in order to prune the pages for further processing [COL 5 lines 26-37]" (final Office Action, pg. 3). This allegation does not address the above feature recited in claim 42.

Claim 42 does not recite fetching documents in a start set, as the final Office Action's allegation suggests. Instead, claim 42 specifically recites a browser assistant configured to prefetch a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the identified links based on the determined scores. Bharat et al. discloses producing a set of documents by combining the set of results from a web search engine in response to a search query with pages that either link to or are linked from the start set documents and scoring the documents in the start set (see col. 3, lines 3-13). Bharat et al. further discloses selecting a subset of documents in the start set based on their scores to form an expanded query topic. Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest that the selected subset of documents is prefetched, as required by claim 42.

The final Office Action does not point to any section of Bharat et al. that discloses or suggests a browser assistant configured to prefetch a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the identified links based on the determined scores, as recited in claim 42.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 42 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Bharat et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the

rejection of claim 42 be reversed.

7. Claim 45.

Claim 45 is directed to a method for prefetching documents associated with a search in a network that includes a client and a plurality of servers. The method comprises requesting, by the client, a document that includes one or more links, each of the links corresponding to a linked document; providing, by one of the servers, the requested document to the client; analyzing, by the client, each of the links in the requested document; determining, by the client, a score for each of the links; requesting, by the client, a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores; and providing, by one or more of the servers, the requested linked documents to the client. Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest this combination of features.

For example, Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest requesting, by the client, a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores and providing, by one or more of the servers, the requested linked documents to the client. With respect to this feature, the final Office Action alleges "[t]he elements of claim 39-40 and 42-45 are rejected in the analysis above and this claim is rejected on that basis" (final Office Action, pg. 5). At the outset, Appellants note that claims 25-33 and 37-41 do not specifically recite the above features of claim 45. Therefore, a *prima facie* basis for denying patentability has not been established with respect to claim 45.

Nevertheless, with respect to claim 25, the final Office Action relies on col. 3, lines 17-20, of Bharat et al. as allegedly disclosing prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores (final Office Action, pg.

4). Appellants respectfully submit that this section of Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest requesting, by the client, a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores and providing, by one or more of the servers, the requested linked documents to the client, as recited in claim 45.

At col. 3, lines 16-20, Bharat et al. discloses:

A subset of documents, for example thirty, represented by the highest scoring nodes in the start-set are selected to form an expanded query topic. The topic is formed by concatenating the first, for example, one thousand words from each of the selected documents.

This section of Bharat et al. discloses that a subset of documents from a start set, which is a set of documents retrieved by a search engine in response to a search query, can be selected to form an expanded query topic. This section of Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest requesting, by the client, a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores and providing, by one or more of the servers, the requested linked documents to the client, as required by claim 45. In fact, this section of Bharat et al. in no way relates to requesting and providing documents. Instead, this section of Bharat et al. merely uses a subset of a group of documents retrieved in response to a search query to expand a query topic.

Further with respect to the above feature recited in claim 25, the final Office Action alleges "in the passage cited [COL 3 lines 17-20], a subset of the start set, 'for example thirty, represented by the highest scoring nodes' refers to scores determined according to their connectivity [COL 3 lines 10-15]" (final Office Action, pg. 3). Regardless of the veracity of this allegation, the final Office Action does not explain how selecting a group of documents for forming an expanded query topic, as disclosed by Bharat et al., in any way relates to requesting, by the client, a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on

the determined scores and providing, by one or more of the servers, the requested linked documents to the client, as required by claim 45. Clearly, one skilled in the art at the time of Appellants' invention would readily appreciate that selecting a group of documents for forming an expanded query topic cannot be reasonably construed as equivalent to requesting, by the client, a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores and providing, by one or more of the servers, the requested linked documents to the client, as recited in claim 45.

At col. 3, lines 10-15, Bharat et al. discloses:

The nodes in the start set are first scored according to their connectivity, and the number of terms of the query that appear as unique sub-strings in the URL of the represented documents. The score is a weighted sum of the number of directed edges to and from a node and the number of unique sub-strings of the URL that match a query term.

This section of Bharat et al. discloses scoring nodes in the first set. This section of Bharat et al. in no way discloses or suggests requesting, by the client, a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores and providing, by one or more of the servers, the requested linked documents to the client, as required by claim 45. In fact, this section of Bharat et al. does not even relate to requesting and providing documents.

The final Office Action further alleges with respect to the above feature of claim 25 that "the start set is explicitly *fetched* [COL 4 line 67 and after] prior to extraction of the hyperlinks and other operations, and use of the connectivity is noted at the COL 3 lines 17-20 cited in order to prune the pages for further processing [COL 5 lines 26-37]" (final Office Action, pg. 3). This allegation does not address the above feature recited in claim 45.

Claim 45 does not recite fetching documents in a start set, as the final Office Action's

allegation suggests. Instead, claim 45 specifically recites requesting, by the client, a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores and providing, by one or more of the servers, the requested linked documents to the client. Bharat et al. discloses producing a set of documents by combining the set of results from a web search engine in response to a search query with pages that either link to or are linked from the start set documents and scoring the documents in the start set (see col. 3, lines 3-13). Bharat et al. further discloses selecting a subset of documents in the start set based on their scores to form an expanded query topic. Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest that the selected subset of documents is requested and provided, as required by claim 45.

The final Office Action does not point to any section of Bharat et al. that discloses or suggests requesting, by the client, a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores and providing, by one or more of the servers, the requested linked documents to the client, as recited in claim 45.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 45 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Bharat et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 45 be reversed.

C. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Kleinberg (U.S. Patent No. 6,112,202) should be reversed.

1. Claims 1 and 20-24.

Independent claim 1 is directed to a computer-implemented method for performing a search. The method includes obtaining selection of one or more groups of characters in a

document currently accessed by a user, where the obtaining includes highlighting the one or more groups of characters in the document and selecting a search object while the one or more groups of characters are highlighted in the document; generating a search query using the selected one or more groups of characters in response to selecting the search object; retrieving search results based on the search query; and presenting the search results to the user. Kleinberg does not disclose or suggest the combination of features recited in claim 1.

For example, Kleinberg does not disclose or suggest obtaining selection of one or more groups of characters in a document currently accessed by a user, where the obtaining includes highlighting the one or more groups of characters in the document and selecting a search object while the one or more groups of characters are highlighted in the document. With respect to these features, the final Office Action alleges "Kleinberg notes that words and phrases that serve as hyperlinks, both of which correspond to groups of characters in a document, are highlighted in Web pages as a matter of common practice [COL 2 line 62 to Col 3 line 4]. Further, a mouse click activates one of the hyperlinks and downloads the corresponding page" (final Office Action, pg. 7). Appellants submit that the final Office Action has mischaracterized the above features of claim 1.

Claim 1 does not recite clicking on a hyperlink in a document via a mouse to download a corresponding page. Instead, claim 1 clearly and specifically recites obtaining selection of one or more groups of characters in a document currently accessed by a user, where the obtaining includes highlighting the one or more groups of characters in the document and selecting a search object while the one or more groups of characters are highlighted in the document. Selection of a hyperlink in a document in no way relates to obtaining selection of one or more groups of

characters in a document by highlighting the one or more groups of characters in the document and selecting a search object while the one or more groups of characters are highlighted in the document. The final Office Action has not addressed this combination of features, despite repeated requests by Appellants.

At col. 2, line 62, to col. 3, line 4, Kleinberg discloses:

If a word or phrase, appearing on a Web page, is configured as an hyperlink to another Web page, the word or phrase is typically given in a color which contrasts with the surrounding text or background, underlined, or otherwise highlighted. Accordingly, the word or phrase defines a region, on the graphical representation of the Web page, inside of which a mouse click will activate the hyperlink, request a download of the linked-to page, and display the page when it is downloaded.

This section of Kleinberg discloses that a hyperlink may be highlighted in a web page and that a mouse click will activate the hyperlink. This section of Kleinberg in no way discloses or suggests obtaining selection of one or more groups of characters in a document currently accessed by a user, where the obtaining includes highlighting the one or more groups of characters in the document and selecting a search object while the one or more groups of characters are highlighted in the document, as required by claim 1. Appellants submit that one skilled in the art at the time of Appellants' invention would not reasonably construe clicking on a highlighted hyperlink as equivalent to selecting a search object while the one or more characters are highlighted in a document.

The final Office Action also points to col. 5, lines 20-41, and col. 12, lines 1-48, of Kleinberg and alleges "the embodiments of Kleinberg match those claimed" (final Office Action, pg. 7). These sections of Kleinberg do not disclose or suggest obtaining selection of one or more groups of characters in a document currently accessed by a user, where the obtaining includes

highlighting the one or more groups of characters in the document and selecting a search object while the one or more groups of characters are highlighted in the document, as required by claim 1.

At col. 5, lines 20-41, Kleinberg discloses:

However, it is believed that the invention has particular applicability to the World Wide Web. A user, having interest in a particular area of subject matter and seeking Web pages related to that subject matter, may advantageously use the invention to locate authoritative pages on that subject matter.

While the invention is primarily disclosed as a method, it will be understood by a person of ordinary skill in the art that an apparatus, such as a conventional data processor, including a CPU, memory, I/O, program storage, a connecting bus, and other appropriate components, could be programmed or otherwise designed to facilitate the practice of the method of the invention. Such a processor would include appropriate program means for executing the method of the invention.

Also, an article of manufacture, such as a pre-recorded disk or other similar computer program product, for use with a data processing system, could include a storage medium and program means recorded thereon for directing the data processing system to facilitate the practice of the method of the invention. It will be understood that such apparatus and articles of manufacture also fall within the spirit and scope of the invention.

This section of Kleinberg discloses that Kleinberg's invention may be performed as a method, by an apparatus, or implemented as an article of manufacture. This section of Kleinberg in no way relates to obtaining selection of one or more groups of characters in a document currently accessed by a user, where the obtaining includes highlighting the one or more groups of characters in the document and selecting a search object while the one or more groups of characters are highlighted in the document, as required by claim 1.

Col. 12, lines 1-48, Kleinberg discloses that Kleinberg's invention may be implemented using standard programming and/or engineering techniques using computer programming software, firmware, hardware, or any combination or subcombination thereof. This section of

Kleinberg in no way relates to obtaining selection of one or more groups of characters in a document currently accessed by a user, where the obtaining includes highlighting the one or more groups of characters in the document and selecting a search object while the one or more groups of characters are highlighted in the document, as required by claim 1.

Much of the above arguments were presented in Appellants' response filed April 19, 2005. None of these arguments were addressed in the final Office Action, despite repeated requests by Appellants. Appellants submit that a *prima facie* basis for denying patentability has not been established with respect to claim 1.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Kleinberg is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claims 1 and 20-24 be reversed.

2. Claim 3.

Claim 3 depends from claim 1. Therefore, claim 3 is not anticipated by Kleinberg for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 1. Moreover, claim 3 recites an additional feature not disclosed or suggested by Kleinberg.

Claim 3 recites that the obtaining selection includes receiving selection of a single group of characters in the document. Kleinberg does not disclose or suggest this feature. The final Office Action does not address the feature recited in claim 3. Accordingly, a proper case of anticipation has not been established with respect to claim 3. Moreover, since Kleinberg does not disclose or suggest obtaining selection of one or more groups of characters in a document currently accessed by a user, Kleinberg cannot disclose or suggest the above feature of claim 3.

For at least these additional reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 3 under

35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Kleinberg is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 3 be reversed.

3. Claim 4.

Claim 4 depends from claim 3. Therefore, claim 4 is not anticipated by Kleinberg for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 3. Moreover, claim 4 recites an additional feature not disclosed or suggested by Kleinberg.

Claim 4 recites that the generating a search query includes using the selected group of characters as a search term for the search query. Kleinberg does not disclose or suggest this feature. The final Office Action does not address the feature recited in claim 4. Accordingly, a proper case of anticipation has not been established with respect to claim 4.

For at least this additional reason, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Kleinberg is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 4 be reversed.

4. Claim 5.

Claim 5 depends from claim 1. Therefore, claim 5 is not anticipated by Kleinberg for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 1. Moreover, claim 5 recites an additional feature not disclosed or suggested by Kleinberg.

Claim 5 recites that the obtaining selection includes receiving selection of a phrase in the document. Kleinberg does not disclose or suggest this feature. The final Office Action does not address the feature recited in claim 5. Accordingly, a proper case of anticipation has not been established with respect to claim 5. Moreover, since Kleinberg does not disclose or suggest obtaining selection of one or more groups of characters in a document currently accessed by a

user, Kleinberg cannot disclose or suggest the above feature of claim 5.

For at least these additional reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Kleinberg is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 5 be reversed.

5. Claim 6.

Claim 6 depends from claim 5. Therefore, claim 6 is not anticipated by Kleinberg for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 5. Moreover, claim 6 recites an additional feature not disclosed or suggested by Kleinberg.

Claim 6 recites that the generating a search query includes using the selected phrase as a single search term for the search query. Kleinberg does not disclose or suggest this feature. The final Office Action does not address the feature recited in claim 6. Accordingly, a proper case of anticipation has not been established with respect to claim 5.

For at least these additional reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Kleinberg is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 6 be reversed.

6. Claims 25-27, 30, 33, 37-41, 43, and 44.

Independent claim 25 is directed to a method for prefetching documents associated with a search. The method includes identifying a document that includes one or more links, where each of the links corresponds to a linked document; analyzing each of the links in the document; determining a score for each of the links; and prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores. Kleinberg does not disclose or suggest this combination of features.

For example, Kleinberg does not disclose or suggest determining a score for each of the links in the document or prefetching a number of linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores. In fact, Kleinberg does not disclose or suggest prefetching any linked documents. The final Office Action does not address these features. Instead, the final Office Action alleges "[t]he elements of **claims 1, 3-6, 25-33 and 37-45** are rejected in the analysis above and this claim is rejected on that basis" (final Office Action, pg. 7). The final Office Action addresses features recited in claims 20-24 (pg. 7). Claims 20-24 do not recite, however, determining a score for each of the links in the document or prefetching a number of linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores, as required by claim 25. Since the final Office Action does not address these features, a *prima facie* basis for denying patentability has not been established with respect to claim 25.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Kleinberg is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claims 25-27, 30, 33, 37-41, 43, and 44 be reversed.

7. Claim 28.

Claim 28 depends from claim 25. Therefore, claim 28 is not anticipated by Kleinberg for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 25. Moreover, claim 28 recites additional features not disclosed or suggested by Kleinberg.

Claim 28 recites receiving selection of one of the links in the document, determining whether the selected link corresponds to one of the prefetched documents and providing the one prefetched document when the selected link corresponds to the one prefetched document. At the outset, Appellants submit that since Kleinberg does not disclose or suggest prefetching a number

of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores for the links, Kleinberg cannot disclose or suggest the above features of claim 28. The final Office Action does not address the above features of claim 28. Therefore, the final Office Action has not established a *prima facie* basis for denying patentability with respect to claim 28.

For at least these additional reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Kleinberg is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 28 be reversed.

8. Claim 29.

Claim 29 depends from claim 28. Therefore, claim 29 is not anticipated by Kleinberg for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 28. Moreover, claim 29 recites an additional feature not disclosed or suggested by Kleinberg.

Claim 29 recites retrieving the linked document corresponding to the selected link from a server when the selected link does not correspond to one of the prefetched documents. At the outset, Appellants submit that since Kleinberg does not disclose or suggest prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores for the links, Kleinberg cannot disclose or suggest the above feature of claim 29. The final Office Action does not address the above features of claim 29. Therefore, the final Office Action has not established a *prima facie* basis for denying patentability with respect to claim 29.

For at least these additional reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Kleinberg is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection be reversed.

9. Claim 31.

Claim 31 depends indirectly from claim 25. Therefore, claim 31 is not anticipated by Kleinberg for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 25. Moreover, claim 31 recites an additional feature not disclosed or suggested by Kleinberg.

Claim 31 recites that the prefetching includes using an address lookup to prefetch the linked documents corresponding to the number of the links. At the outset, Appellants submit that since Kleinberg does not disclose or suggest prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores for the links, Kleinberg cannot disclose or suggest the above feature of claim 31. The final Office Action does not address the feature recited in claim 31. Therefore, the final Office Action has not established a *prima facie* basis for denying patentability with respect to claim 31.

For at least these additional reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Kleinberg is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection be reversed.

10. Claim 32.

Claim 32 depends from claim 25. Therefore, claim 32 is not anticipated by Kleinberg for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 25. Moreover, claim 32 recites an additional feature not disclosed or suggested by Kleinberg.

Claim 32 recites that the prefetching includes prefetching the linked documents corresponding to all of the links in the document. At the outset, Appellants submit that since Kleinberg does not disclose or suggest prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores for the links, Kleinberg cannot disclose or suggest the above feature of claim 32. The final Office Action does not

address the above feature of claim 32. Therefore, the final Office Action has not established a *prima facie* basis for denying patentability with respect to claim 32.

For at least these additional reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Kleinberg is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 32 be reversed.

11. Claim 42.

Independent claim 42 is directed to a system for prefetching documents associated with a search. The system includes a browser configured to retrieve a document that includes one or more links, where each of the links corresponds to a linked document; and a browser assistant configured to identify each of the links in the document, determine a score for each of the identified links, and prefetch a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the identified links based on the determined scores. Kleinberg does not disclose or suggest this combination of features.

For example, Kleinberg does not disclose or suggest a browser assistant configured to prefetch a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the identified links based on the determined scores. In fact, Kleinberg does not disclose or suggest prefetching any linked documents. The final Office Action does not address this feature. Instead, the final Office Action alleges "[t]he elements of **claims 1, 3-6, 25-33 and 37-45** are rejected in the analysis above and this claim is rejected on that basis" (final Office Action, pg. 7). The final Office Action addresses features recited in claims 20-24 (pg. 7). Claims 20-24 do not recite, however, a browser assistant configured to prefetch a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the identified links based on the determined scores, as required by claim 42. Since the

final Office Action does not address this feature, a *prima facie* basis for denying patentability has not been established with respect to claim 42.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 42 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Kleinberg is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 42 be reversed.

12. Claim 45.

Independent claim 45 is directed to a method for prefetching documents associated with a search in a network that includes a client and a plurality of servers. The method comprises requesting, by the client, a document that includes one or more links, each of the links corresponding to a linked document; providing, by one of the servers, the requested document to the client; analyzing, by the client, each of the links in the requested document; determining, by the client, a score for each of the links; requesting, by the client, a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores; and providing, by one or more of the servers, the requested linked documents to the client. Kleinberg does not disclose or suggest this combination of features.

For example, Kleinberg does not disclose or suggest requesting, by the client, a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores and providing, by one or more of the servers, the requested linked documents to the client. The final Office Action does not address these features. Instead, the final Office Action alleges "[t]he elements of **claims 1, 3-6, 25-33 and 37-45** are rejected in the analysis above and this claim is rejected on that basis" (final Office Action, pg. 7). The final Office Action addresses features recited in claims 20-24 (pg. 7). Claims 20-24 do not recite, however, requesting, by the client, a

number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores and providing, by one or more of the servers, the requested linked documents to the client, as required by claim 45. Since the final Office Action does not address these features, a *prima facie* basis for denying patentability has not been established with respect to claim 45.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 45 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Kleinberg is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 45 be reversed.

D. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Bharat et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,112,203) should be reversed.

The initial burden of establishing a *prima facie* basis to deny patentability to a claimed invention always rests upon the Examiner. In re Oetiker, 977 F.2d 1443, 24 USPQ2d 1443 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In rejecting a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 103, the Examiner must provide a factual basis to support the conclusion of obviousness. In re Warner, 379 F.2d 1011, 154 USPQ 173 (CCPA 1967). Based upon the objective evidence of record, the Examiner is required to make the factual inquiries mandated by Graham v. John Deere Co., 86 S.Ct. 684, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966). The Examiner is also required to explain how and why one having ordinary skill in the art would have been realistically motivated to modify an applied reference and/or combine applied references to arrive at the claimed invention. Uniroyal, Inc. v. Rudkin-Wiley Corp., 837 F.2d 1044, 5 USPQ2d 1434 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

In establishing the requisite motivation, it has been consistently held that the requisite motivation to support the conclusion of obviousness is not an abstract concept, but must stem

from the prior art as a whole to impel one having ordinary skill in the art to modify a reference or to combine references with a reasonable expectation of successfully achieving some particular realistic objective. See, for example, Interconnect Planning Corp. v. Feil, 227 USPQ 543 (Fed. Cir. 1985). Consistent legal precedent admonishes against the indiscriminate combination of prior art references. Carella v. Starlight Archery, 804 F.2d 135, 231 USPQ 644 (Fed. Cir. 1986); Ashland Oil, Inc. v. Delta Resins & Refractories, Inc., 776 F.2d 281, 227 USPQ 657 (Fed. Cir. 1985).

1. Claim 34.

Claim 34 depends from claim 25. Therefore, this claim is patentable over Bharat et al. for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 25. Moreover, this claim recites additional features not disclosed or suggested by Bharat et al.

Claim 34 recites that the determining a score includes determining a clickthrough rate for each of the linked documents, determining a score for each of the linked documents based on the determined clickthrough rates, and associating the determined scores for the linked documents with the corresponding links. Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest these features.

For example, Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest determining a score for each of the linked documents based on the determined clickthrough rates. The final Office Action admits that Bharat et al. does not disclose this feature (final Office Action, pg. 6). The final Office Action alleges, however, that "these were well known measures applied to web sites as noted in the Specification, page 17 line 15 to page 18 line 3. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply clickthrough and popularity to scoring documents such as web pages because these data are readily available and used to

determine the usefulness of web sites" (final Office Action, pg. 6). Appellants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's allegation.

At the outset, Appellants note that Appellants' Specification discloses that clickthrough measurements are commonplace in many current web sites (page 17, lines 18-19). Appellants' Specification in no way discloses or suggests that determining a score for each of the linked documents based on determined clickthrough rates, as required by claim 34, is commonplace.

The final Office Action has not pointed to any section of Bharat et al. that provides motivation for modifying Bharat et al. to determine a score for each of the linked documents based on determined clickthrough rates. The final Office Action's motivation for modifying Bharat et al. to include the features of claim 34 is merely a conclusory statement and is insufficient for establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Bharat et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 34 be reversed.

2. Claim 35.

Claim 35 depends from claim 25. Therefore, this claim is patentable over Bharat et al. for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 25. Moreover, this claim recites additional features not disclosed or suggested by Bharat et al.

Claim 35 recites that the determining a score includes determining a popularity of each of the linked documents, determining a score for each of the linked documents based on the determined popularity, and associating the determined scores for the linked documents with the corresponding links. Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest these features.

For example, Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest determining a popularity of each of the linked documents or determining a score for each of the linked documents based on the determined popularity. The final Office Action admits that Bharat et al. does not disclose these features (final Office Action, pg. 6). The final Office Action alleges, however, "these were well known measures applied to web sites as noted in the Specification, page 17 line 15 to page 18 line 3. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply clickthrough and popularity to scoring documents such as web pages because these data are readily available and used to determine the usefulness of web sites" (final Office Action, pg. 4). Appellants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's allegation.

At the outset, Appellants note that Appellants' Specification in no way discloses or suggests that determining a popularity of each of the linked documents and determining a score for each of the linked documents based on determined popularity, as required by claim 35, are commonplace. The final Office Action is clearly mischaracterizing Appellants' Specification.

The final Office Action has not pointed to any section of Bharat et al. that provides motivation for modifying Bharat et al. to determine a popularity of each of the linked documents and determine a score for each of the linked documents based on the determined popularity. The final Office Action's motivation for modifying Bharat et al. to include the features of claim 35 is merely a conclusory statement and is insufficient for establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 35 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Bharat et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 35 be reversed.

3. Claim 36.

Claim 36 depends from claim 35. Therefore, this claim is patentable over Bharat et al. for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 35. Moreover, this claim recites additional features not disclosed or suggested by Bharat et al.

Claim 36 recites that the determining a popularity includes, for each of the linked documents, determining a popularity of a web site containing the linked document, and associating the popularity of the web site to the linked document. Bharat et al. does not disclose or suggest these features.

The final Office Action admits that Bharat et al. does not disclose these features (final Office Action, pg. 6). The final Office Action alleges, however, "these were well known measures applied to web sites as noted in the Specification, page 17 line 15 to page 18 line 3. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply clickthrough and popularity to scoring documents such as web pages because these data are readily available and used to determine the usefulness of web sites" (final Office Action, pg. 6). Appellants submit that the final Office Action's allegations in no way addresses the specific features recited in claim 36. Accordingly, the final Office Action has not established a *prima facie* case of obviousness with respect to claim 36.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 36 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Bharat et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 36 be reversed.

C. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Kleinberg (U.S. Patent No. 6,112,202) and Liddy et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,963,940) should be reversed.

1. Claim 2.

Claim 2 recites that the search object is located in at least one of a menu or toolbar. The final Office Action appears to admit that Kleinberg does not disclose this feature and relies on Fig. 15 of Liddy et al. for allegedly disclosing "menus as generators of search requests" (final Office Action, pg. 8). Regardless of the veracity of this allegation, Appellants submit that the final Office Action does not address the feature recited in claim 2.

Appellants' claim 2 does not recite menus as generators of search requests. Instead, Appellants' claim 2 specifically recites that the search object, which is selected while one or more groups of characters are highlighted in a document, is located in at least one of a menu or toolbar. The final Office Action does not address this feature. Accordingly, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established with respect to claim 2.

Nevertheless, Fig. 15 of Liddy et al. depicts a retrieved documents screen 380 (col. 33, line 11). Liddy et al. does not disclose or suggest that the menu or toolbar depicted in Fig. 15 (or any other menu or toolbar disclosed in Liddy et al.) includes a search object, which is selected while one or more groups of characters are highlighted in a document, as required by claim 2.

Even assuming, for the sake of argument, that one skilled in the art at the time of Appellants' invention would have reasonably construed the menu or toolbar depicted in Liddy et al.'s Fig. 15 to include the recited search object (a point that Appellants do not concede), Appellants submit that one skilled in the art would not have been motivated to incorporate Liddy et al.'s allegedly teaching of the recited search object into the Kleinberg system, absent

impermissible hindsight. The final Office Action does not provide any motivation for combining this alleged teaching of Liddy et al. with Kleinberg. Accordingly, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established with respect to claim 2.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Kleinberg and Liddy et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 2 be reversed.

2. Claims 7 and 8.

Claim 7 recites that the generating a search query includes identifying words in the selected phrase and creating the search query by combining the identified words. The final Office Action admits that Kleinberg does not disclose these features (final Office Action, pg. 8). The final Office Action takes Official Notice that "it was well known in the art at the time of the invention to apply Natural Language Processing [NLP] to determine queries" and points to col. 4, lines 59-67, of Liddy et al. for support (final Office Action, pg. 8). Appellants submit that the final Office Action mischaracterizes the features recited in claim 7.

Claim 7 does not recite applying NLP to determine queries. Instead, claim 7 specifically recites that the generating a search query includes identifying words in a selected phrase in a document and creating the search query by combining the identified words. Applying NLP to determine queries in no way relates to identifying words in a selected phrase in a document and creating the search query by combining the identified words, as required by claim 7. The final Office Action provides no insight as to why one skilled in the art would reasonably construe these acts as being equivalent. Therefore, the final Office Action's allegation that it is well known to apply NLP to determine queries is not relevant to the features recited in claim 7.

Kleinberg and Liddy et al. do not disclose or suggest that generating a search query includes identifying words in a selected phrase in a document and creating the search query by combining the identified words. The final Office Action does not address these specifically recited features. As such, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established with respect to claim 7.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Kleinberg and Liddy et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claims 7 and 8 be reversed.

3. Claims 9-19.

Claims 9-19 depend from claim 1. The disclosure of Liddy et al. does not remedy the deficiencies in the disclosure of Kleinberg set forth above with respect to claim 1. Therefore, claims 9-19 are patentable over Kleinberg and Liddy et al. for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 1.

4. Claim 34.

Claim 34 depends from claim 25. Therefore, this claim is patentable over Kleinberg and Liddy et al. for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 25. Moreover, this claim recites additional features not disclosed or suggested by Kleinberg and Liddy et al.

Claim 34 recites that the determining a score includes determining a clickthrough rate for each of the linked documents, determining a score for each of the linked documents based on the determined clickthrough rates, and associating the determined scores for the linked documents with the corresponding links. Kleinberg and Liddy et al. do not disclose or suggest these features.

For example, Kleinberg and Liddy et al. do not disclose or suggest determining a score for each of the linked documents based on the determined clickthrough rates. The final Office Action admits that Kleinberg and Liddy et al. do not disclose this feature (final Office Action, pg. 8). The final Office Action alleges, however, that "these were well known measures applied to web sites as noted in the Specification, page 17 line 15 to page 18 line 3. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply clickthrough and popularity to scoring documents such as web pages because these data are readily available and used to determine the usefulness of web sites" (final Office Action, pg. 8). Appellants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's allegation.

At the outset, Appellants note that Appellants' Specification discloses that clickthrough measurements are commonplace in many current web sites (page 17, lines 18-19). Appellants' Specification in no way discloses or suggests that determining a score for each of the linked documents based on determined clickthrough rates, as required by claim 34, is commonplace.

The final Office Action has not pointed to any section of Kleinberg or Liddy et al. that provides motivation for modifying Kleinberg and Liddy et al. to determine a score for each of the linked documents based on determined clickthrough rates. The final Office Action's motivation for modifying Kleinberg and Liddy et al. to include the features of claim 34 is merely a conclusory statement and is insufficient for establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Kleinberg and Liddy et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 34 be reversed.

5. Claim 35.

Claim 35 depends from claim 25. Therefore, this claim is patentable over Kleinberg and Liddy et al. for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 25. Moreover, this claim recites additional features not disclosed or suggested by Kleinberg and Liddy et al.

Claim 35 recites that the determining a score includes determining a popularity of each of the linked documents, determining a score for each of the linked documents based on the determined popularity, and associating the determined scores for the linked documents with the corresponding links. Kleinberg and Liddy et al. do not disclose or suggest these features.

For example, Kleinberg and Liddy et al. does not disclose or suggest determining a popularity of each of the linked documents or determining a score for each of the linked documents based on the determined popularity. The final Office Action admits that Kleinberg and Liddy et al. does not disclose these features (final Office Action, pg. 8). The final Office Action alleges, however, "these were well known measures applied to web sites as noted in the Specification, page 17 line 15 to page 18 line 3. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply clickthrough and popularity to scoring documents such as web pages because these data are readily available and used to determine the usefulness of web sites" (final Office Action, pg. 8). Appellants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's allegation.

At the outset, Appellants note that Appellants' Specification in no way discloses or suggests that determining a popularity of each of the linked documents and determining a score for each of the linked documents based on determined popularity, as required by claim 35, are commonplace. The final Office Action is clearly mischaracterizing Appellants' Specification.

The final Office Action has not pointed to any section of Kleinberg or Liddy et al. that

provides motivation for modifying Kleinberg and Liddy et al. to determine a popularity of each of the linked documents and determine a score for each of the linked documents based on the determined popularity. The final Office Action's motivation for modifying Kleinberg and Liddy et al. to include the features of claim 35 is merely a conclusory statement and is insufficient for establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 35 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Kleinberg and Liddy et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 35 be reversed.

6. Claim 36.

Claim 36 depends from claim 35. Therefore, this claim is patentable over Kleinberg and Liddy et al. for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 35. Moreover, this claim recites additional features not disclosed or suggested by Kleinberg and Liddy et al.

Claim 36 recites that the determining a popularity includes, for each of the linked documents, determining a popularity of a web site containing the linked document, and associating the popularity of the web site to the linked document. Kleinberg and Liddy et al. do not disclose or suggest these features.

The final Office Action admits that Kleinberg and Liddy et al. do not disclose these features (final Office Action, pg. 8). The final Office Action alleges, however, "these were well known measures applied to web sites as noted in the Specification, page 17 line 15 to page 18 line 3. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply clickthrough and popularity to scoring documents such as web pages because these data are readily available and used to determine the usefulness of web sites" (final Office Action, pg.

8). Appellants submit that the final Office Action's allegations in no way addresses the specific features recited in claim 36. Accordingly, the final Office Action has not established a *prima facie* case of obviousness with respect to claim 36.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 36 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Kleinberg and Liddy et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 36 be reversed.

7. Claims 46, 52, 53, and 56-59.

Independent claim 46 is directed to a computer-implemented method for supplementing a document with links to related documents. The method includes analyzing a document to identify one or more pieces of information; determining a link to a related document for each of the identified pieces of information by performing a search of a set of documents based on each of the identified pieces of information; and adding the links to the document. Kleinberg and Liddy et al. do not disclose or suggest this combination of features.

The final Office Action does not address the features of claim 46. Instead, the final Office Action alleges "[a]s to **claims 46-47**, selected subsets of a document or document corpus include identified pieces of information" and points to col. 5, lines 1-15, of Liddy et al. for support (final Office Action, pg. 9). This allegation in the final Office Action in no way addresses the specific features recited in Appellants' claim 46. Accordingly, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established with respect to claim 46.

At col. 5, lines 1-15, Liddy et al. discloses:

Unless otherwise stated, the term "query" should be taken to mean text that is input for the purpose of selecting a subset of documents from a document database. While most queries entered by a user tend to be short compared to most documents stored in the database, this should not be assumed. The present

invention is designed to allow natural language queries.

Unless otherwise stated, the term "word" should be taken to include single words, compound words, phrases, and other multi-word constructs. Furthermore, the terms "word" and "term" are often used interchangeably. Terms and words include, for example, nouns, proper nouns, complex nominals, noun phrases, verbs, adverbs, numeric expressions, and adjectives. This includes stemmed and non-stemmed forms.

This section of Liddy et al. discloses definitions for the terms "query," "word," and "term." This section of Liddy et al. in no discloses or suggests any of the features recited in claim 46.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 46 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Kleinberg and Liddy et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claims 46, 52, 53, and 56-59 be reversed.

8. Claim 47.

Claim 47 depends from claim 46. Therefore, this claim is patentable over Kleinberg and Liddy et al. for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 46. Moreover, this claim recites additional features not disclosed or suggested by Kleinberg and Liddy et al.

Claim 47 recites that the pieces of information include at least one of a name, a product, a publication, or a key phrase. Kleinberg and Liddy et al. do not disclose or suggest this feature.

The final Office Action does not address the feature recited in claim 47. Instead, the final Office Action alleges "[a]s to **claims 46-47**, selected subsets of a document or document corpus include identified pieces of information" and points to col. 5, lines 1-15, of Liddy et al. for support (final Office Action, pg. 9). This allegation in the final Office Action in no way addresses the specific feature recited in Appellants' claim 47. Accordingly, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established with respect to claim 47.

At col. 5, lines 1-15, Liddy et al. discloses:

Unless otherwise stated, the term "query" should be taken to mean text that is input for the purpose of selecting a subset of documents from a document database. While most queries entered by a user tend to be short compared to most documents stored in the database, this should not be assumed. The present invention is designed to allow natural language queries.

Unless otherwise stated, the term "word" should be taken to include single words, compound words, phrases, and other multi-word constructs. Furthermore, the terms "word" and "term" are often used interchangeably. Terms and words include, for example, nouns, proper nouns, complex nominals, noun phrases, verbs, adverbs, numeric expressions, and adjectives. This includes stemmed and non-stemmed forms.

This section of Liddy et al. discloses definitions for the terms "query," "word," and "term." This section of Liddy et al. in no discloses or suggests that the pieces of information include at least one of a name, a product, a publication, or a key phrase, as recited in claim 47.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 47 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Kleinberg and Liddy et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 47 be reversed.

9. Claim 48.

Claim 48 depends from claim 47. Therefore, this claim is patentable over Kleinberg and Liddy et al. for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 47. Moreover, this claim recites additional features not disclosed or suggested by Kleinberg and Liddy et al.

Claim 48 recites that when the pieces of information include one or more names, the determining a link includes for each of the names, identifying one or more related documents that include a link associated with the name, and determining one or more links corresponding to the identified documents. Kleinberg and Liddy et al. do not disclose or suggest these features.

The final Office Action does not address the features of claim 48. Instead, the final Office Action alleges "names, such as those shown in Liddy FIG 15, are common elements of

documents phrases and are included in NLP analysis" (final Office Action, pg. 9). This allegation in the final Office Action in no way addresses the specific features recited in Appellants' claim 48. Accordingly, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established with respect to claim 48.

Fig. 15 of Liddy et al. depicts a retrieved documents screen 380 (col. 33, line 11). Liddy et al. does not disclose or suggest that screen 380 identifying one or more related documents that include a link associated with the name for each of the names, and determining one or more links corresponding to the identified documents, as required by claim 48. This figure of Liddy et al. cannot reasonably be construed to disclose the features recited in claim 48.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 48 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Kleinberg and Liddy et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 48 be reversed.

10. Claim 49.

Claim 49 depends from claim 47. Therefore, this claim is patentable over Kleinberg and Liddy et al. for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 47. Moreover, this claim recites additional features not disclosed or suggested by Kleinberg and Liddy et al.

Claim 49 recites that when the pieces of information include information regarding one or more products, the determining a link includes identifying, for each of the products, one or more related documents associated with at least one of a producer, a seller, or a review of the product, and determining one or more links corresponding to the identified documents. Kleinberg and Liddy et al. do not disclose or suggest these features.

The final Office Action does not address the features of claim 49. Instead, the final

Office Action alleges "[t]he elements of claims 49-61 are rejected in the analysis above and these claims are rejected on that basis" (final Office Action, pg. 9). Appellants note that claims 2, 7-19, 34-36, and 46-48 do not recite the above features of claim 49. Accordingly, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established with respect to claim 49.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 49 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Kleinberg and Liddy et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 49 be reversed.

11. Claim 50.

Claim 50 depends from claim 47. Therefore, this claim is patentable over Kleinberg and Liddy et al. for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 47. Moreover, this claim recites additional features not disclosed or suggested by Kleinberg and Liddy et al.

Claim 50 recites that when the pieces of information include information regarding one or more publications, the determining a link includes identifying, for each of the publications, one or more related documents that include the publication, and determining one or more links corresponding to the identified documents. Kleinberg and Liddy et al. do not disclose or suggest these features.

The final Office Action does not address the features of claim 50. Instead, the final Office Action alleges "[t]he elements of claims 49-61 are rejected in the analysis above and these claims are rejected on that basis" (final Office Action, pg. 9). Appellants note that claims 2, 7-19, 34-36, and 46-48 do not recite the above features of claim 50. Accordingly, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established with respect to claim 50.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 50 under

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Kleinberg and Liddy et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 50 be reversed.

12. Claim 51.

Claim 51 depends from claim 47. Therefore, this claim is patentable over Kleinberg and Liddy et al. for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 47. Moreover, this claim recites additional features not disclosed or suggested by Kleinberg and Liddy et al.

Claim 51 recites that when the pieces of information include one or more key phrases, the determining a link includes identifying, for each of the key phrases, one or more related documents that include the key phrase, and determining one or more links corresponding to the identified documents. Kleinberg and Liddy et al. do not disclose or suggest these features.

The final Office Action does not address the features of claim 51. Instead, the final Office Action alleges "[t]he elements of claims 49-61 are rejected in the analysis above and these claims are rejected on that basis" (final Office Action, pg. 9). Appellants note that claims 2, 7-19, 34-36, and 46-48 do not recite the above features of claim 51. Accordingly, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established with respect to claim 51.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 51 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Kleinberg and Liddy et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 51 be reversed.

13. Claim 54.

Claim 54 depends from claim 46. Therefore, this claim is patentable over Kleinberg and Liddy et al. for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 46. Moreover, this claim recites an additional feature not disclosed or suggested by Kleinberg and Liddy et al.

Claim 54 recites that the adding the links includes modifying the document to include the links. Kleinberg and Liddy et al. do not disclose or suggest this feature.

The final Office Action does not address the feature of claim 54. Instead, the final Office Action alleges "[t]he elements of claims 49-61 are rejected in the analysis above and these claims are rejected on that basis" (final Office Action, pg. 9). Appellants note that claims 2, 7-19, 34-36, and 46-48 do not recite the above feature of claim 54. Accordingly, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established with respect to claim 54.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 54 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Kleinberg and Liddy et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 54 be reversed.

14. Claim 55.

Claim 55 depends from claim 46. Therefore, this claim is patentable over Kleinberg and Liddy et al. for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 46. Moreover, this claim recites an additional feature not disclosed or suggested by Kleinberg and Liddy et al.

Claim 55 recites that the adding the links includes providing a separate document that includes the links. Kleinberg and Liddy et al. do not disclose or suggest this feature.

The final Office Action does not address the feature of claim 55. Instead, the final Office Action alleges "[t]he elements of claims 49-61 are rejected in the analysis above and these claims are rejected on that basis" (final Office Action, pg. 9). Appellants note that claims 2, 7-19, 34-36, and 46-48 do not recite the above features of claim 55. Accordingly, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established with respect to claim 55.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 55 under

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Kleinberg and Liddy et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claim 55 be reversed.

15. Claim 60.

Independent claim 60 is directed to a hypertext browser assistant embodied in a computer-readable medium, comprising instructions for detecting selection of one or more words in a document currently accessed by a user; instructions for generating a search query using the selected one or more words; instructions for retrieving a document based on the search query; instructions for identifying one or more pieces of information in the document; instructions for determining a link to a related document for each of the identified pieces of information by performing a search of a set of documents based on each of the identified pieces of information; instructions for adding the links to the document; instructions for prefetching a number of the related documents corresponding to a number of the links; and instructions for presenting the document to the user. Kleinberg and Liddy et al. do not disclose or suggest this combination of features.

The final Office Action does not address the features of claim 60. Instead, the final Office Action alleges "[t]he elements of claims 49-61 are rejected in the analysis above and these claims are rejected on that basis" (final Office Action, pg. 9). Appellants note that claims 2, 7-19, 34-36, and 46-48 do not recite the above combination of features recited in claim 60. Accordingly, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established with respect to claim 60.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 60 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Kleinberg and Liddy et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claims 60 be reversed.

16. Claim 61.

Independent claim 61 is directed to a method for facilitating a search, comprising detecting selection of one or more words in a document currently accessed by a user; generating a search query using the selected one or more words; retrieving a document based on the search query, the document including one or more links corresponding to a linked document; analyzing each of the links; prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links; presenting the document to the user; receiving selection of one of the links; retrieving the linked document corresponding to the selected link; identifying one or more pieces of information in the retrieved document; determining a link to a related document for each of the identified pieces of information by performing a search of a set of documents based on each of the identified pieces of information; and providing the determined links with the related document to the user. Kleinberg and Liddy et al. do not disclose or suggest this combination of features.

The final Office Action does not address the features of claim 61. Instead, the final Office Action alleges "[t]he elements of claims 49-61 are rejected in the analysis above and these claims are rejected on that basis" (final Office Action, pg. 9). Appellants note that claims 2, 7-19, 34-36, and 46-48 do not recite the above combination of features recited in claim 61. Accordingly, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established with respect to claim 61.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellants submit that the rejection of claim 61 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Kleinberg and Liddy et al. is improper. Accordingly, Appellants request that the rejection of claims 61 be reversed.

APPEAL BRIEF

PATENT
Application No. 09/734,886
Docket No. 0026-0005 (GP-004-91-US)

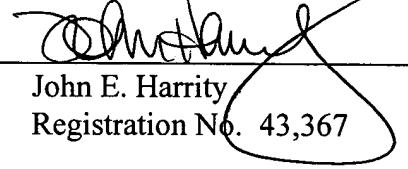
VIII. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing arguments, Appellants respectfully solicit the Honorable Board to reverse the Examiner's rejections of claims 1-61 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 112, second paragraph, 102, and 103.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1070 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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IX. CLAIM APPENDIX

1. A computer-implemented method for performing a search, comprising:
 - obtaining selection of one or more groups of characters in a document currently accessed by a user, the obtaining comprising:
 - highlighting the one or more groups of characters in the document, and
 - selecting a search object while the one or more groups of characters are highlighted in the document;
 - generating a search query using the selected one or more groups of characters in response to selecting the search object;
 - retrieving search results based on the search query; and
 - presenting the search results to the user.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the search object is located in at least one of a menu or toolbar.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the obtaining selection includes:
 - receiving selection of a single group of characters in the document.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein the generating a search query includes:
 - using the selected group of characters as a search term for the search query.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the obtaining selection includes:

receiving selection of a phrase in the document.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the generating a search query includes:
using the selected phrase as a single search term for the search query.
7. The method of claim 5, wherein the generating a search query includes:
identifying words in the selected phrase, and
creating the search query by combining the identified words.
8. The method of claim 7, wherein the generating a search query further includes:
discarding those of the identified words from the search query that are
unnecessary for obtaining relevant search results.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein the obtaining selection includes:
receiving selection of a paragraph in the document.
10. The method of claim 9, wherein the generating a search query includes:
determining textual concepts in the selected paragraph, and
creating the search query from the determined textual concepts.
11. The method of claim 10, wherein the determining textual concepts includes:
using one of a summarization technique or a vector space model to identify the

textual concepts.

12. The method of claim 9, wherein the generating a search query includes:
using the selected paragraph as a search term for the search query.
13. The method of claim 12, wherein the using the selected paragraph includes:
discarding stop words in the selected paragraph from the search query.
14. The method of claim 1, wherein the obtaining selection includes:
receiving selection of the entire document.
15. The method of claim 14, wherein the generating a search query includes:
determining textual concepts in the document, and
generating the search query from the determined textual concepts.
16. The method of claim 15, wherein the determining textual concepts includes:
using one of a summarization technique or a vector space model to identify the
textual concepts.
17. The method of claim 14, wherein the generating a search query includes:
using the selected document as a search term for the search query.

18. The method of claim 1, wherein the retrieving search results includes:

generating a request based on the search query,

sending the request to a server connected to a network, and

receiving the search results from the server.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the server includes at least one of a search engine or a hierarchical directory.

20. A system for performing a search, comprising:

means for receiving selection of one or more groups of characters in a document currently displayed to a user in response to the one or more groups of characters in the document being highlighted and a search object being selected while the one or more groups of characters in the document are highlighted;

means for generating a search query using the selected one or more words;

means for obtaining search results based on the search query; and

means for providing the search results to the user.

21. A system for facilitating performance of a search, comprising:

a browser configured to retrieve a document and present the document to a user;

and

a browser assistant configured to detect selection of one or more groups of characters in the document in response to the one or more groups of characters in the document

being highlighted and a search object being selected while the one or more groups of characters in the document are highlighted, generate a search query from the selected one or more groups of characters, retrieve search results based on the search query, and present the search results to the user.

22. A web browser embodied in a computer-readable medium, comprising:
 - instructions for identifying a document;
 - instructions for obtaining selection of one or more groups of characters in the document in response to the one or more groups of characters in the document being highlighted and a search object being selected while the one or more groups of characters in the document are highlighted;
 - instructions for generating a search query from the selected one or more groups of characters;
 - instructions for obtaining search results based on the search query; and
 - instructions for providing the search results.
23. A computer-readable medium that stores instructions executable by at least one processor to perform a method for executing a search, comprising:
 - instructions for detecting selection of one or more groups of characters in a document currently accessed by a user in response to the one or more groups of characters in the document being highlighted and a search object being selected while the one or more groups of characters in the document are highlighted;

instructions for generating a search query using the selected one or more groups of characters;

instructions for retrieving search results based on the search query; and

instructions for presenting the search results to the user.

24. A method for performing a search in a network that includes a client and a server, comprising:

obtaining, by the client, selection of one or more groups of characters in a document currently accessed by a user in response to the one or more groups of characters in the document being highlighted and a search object being selected while the one or more groups of characters in the document are highlighted;

generating, by the client, a search query using the selected one or more groups of characters;

generating, by the server, search results based on the search query;

obtaining, by the client, the search results from the server; and

presenting, by the client, the search results to the user.

25. A method for prefetching documents associated with a search, comprising:

identifying a document that includes one or more links, each of the links corresponding to a linked document;

analyzing each of the links in the document;

determining a score for each of the links; and

prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein the document includes a web page.

27. The method of claim 25, wherein the document includes a list of links or a hierarchical directory.

28. The method of claim 25, further comprising:
receiving selection of one of the links in the document;
determining whether the selected link corresponds to one of the prefetched documents, and
providing the one prefetched document when the selected link corresponds to the one prefetched document.

29. The method of claim 28, further comprising:
retrieving the linked document corresponding to the selected link from a server when the selected link does not correspond to one of the prefetched documents.

30. The method of claim 25, further comprising:
performing an address lookup for a number of the links.

31. The method of claim 30, wherein the prefetching includes:
 - using the address lookup to prefetch the linked documents corresponding to the number of the links.
32. The method of claim 25, wherein the prefetching includes:
 - prefetching the linked documents corresponding to all of the links in the document.
33. The method of claim 25, wherein the determining a score includes:
 - for each of the linked documents, determining scores for one or more linking documents that contain links to the linked document,
 - determining a score for each of the linked documents based on the scores of the one or more linking documents, and
 - associating the determined scores for the linked documents with the corresponding links.
34. The method of claim 25, wherein the determining a score includes:
 - determining a clickthrough rate for each of the linked documents,
 - determining a score for each of the linked documents based on the determined clickthrough rates, and
 - associating the determined scores for the linked documents with the corresponding links.

35. The method of claim 25, wherein the determining a score includes:

determining a popularity of each of the linked documents,

determining a score for each of the linked documents based on the determined popularity, and

associating the determined scores for the linked documents with the corresponding links.

36. The method of claim 35, wherein the determining a popularity includes:

for each of the linked documents, determining a popularity of a web site containing the linked document, and

associating the popularity of the web site to the linked document.

37. The method of claim 25, wherein the determining a score includes:

receiving a query from a user,

determining a score for each of the linked documents using the received query, and

associating the determined scores for the linked documents with the corresponding links.

38. The method of claim 37, wherein the determining a score for each of the linked documents includes:

for each of the linked documents, comparing the query with contents of the linked document, and

determining a score for the linked document based on a degree of match between the query and the contents of the linked document.

39. The method of claim 25, wherein the determining a score includes:

receiving input from a user,

determining a score for each of the linked documents based on the received input, and

associating the determined scores for the linked documents with the corresponding links.

40. The method of claim 39, wherein the determining a score for each of the linked documents includes:

for each of the linked documents, comparing one or more words of the received input with contents of the linked document, and

determining a score for the linked document based on a degree of match between the one or more words and the contents of the linked document.

41. The method of claim 25, wherein the prefetching includes:

retrieving the linked documents with scores of the corresponding links above a predetermined threshold.

42. A system for prefetching documents associated with a search, comprising:

 a browser configured to retrieve a document that includes one or more links, each of the links corresponding to a linked document; and

 a browser assistant configured to identify each of the links in the document, determine a score for each of the identified links, and prefetch a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the identified links based on the determined scores.

43. A web browser embodied in a computer-readable medium, comprising:

 instructions for identifying a document that includes one or more links, each of the links corresponding to a linked document;

 instructions for identifying each of the links in the document;

 instructions for determining a score for each of the identified links; and

 instructions for prefetching the linked documents corresponding to a number of the identified links based on the determined scores.

44. A computer-readable medium that stores instructions executable by at least one processor to perform a method for prefetching documents associated with a search, comprising:

 instructions for obtaining search results that include one or more links, each of the links corresponding to a linked document;

 instructions for analyzing each of the links;

 instructions for determining a score for each of the links; and

instructions for prefetching the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores.

45. A method for prefetching documents associated with a search in a network that includes a client and a plurality of servers, comprising:

requesting, by the client, a document that includes one or more links, each of the links corresponding to a linked document;

providing, by one of the servers, the requested document to the client;

analyzing, by the client, each of the links in the requested document;

determining, by the client, a score for each of the links;

requesting, by the client, a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links based on the determined scores; and

providing, by one or more of the servers, the requested linked documents to the client.

46. A computer-implemented method for supplementing a document with links to related documents, comprising:

analyzing a document to identify one or more pieces of information;

determining a link to a related document for each of the identified pieces of information by performing a search of a set of documents based on each of the identified pieces of information; and

adding the links to the document.

47. The method of claim 46, wherein the pieces of information include at least one of a name, a product, a publication, or a key phrase.

48. The method of claim 47, wherein when the pieces of information include one or more names, the determining a link includes:

for each of the names, identifying one or more related documents that include a link associated with the name, and

determining one or more links corresponding to the identified documents.

49. The method of claim 47, wherein when the pieces of information include information regarding one or more products, the determining a link includes:

for each of the products, identifying one or more related documents associated with at least one of a producer, a seller, or a review of the product, and

determining one or more links corresponding to the identified documents.

50. The method of claim 47, wherein when the pieces of information include information regarding one or more publications, the determining a link includes:

for each of the publications, identifying one or more related documents that include the publication, and

determining one or more links corresponding to the identified documents.

51. The method of claim 47, wherein when the pieces of information include one or more key phrases, the determining a link includes:

for each of the key phrases, identifying one or more related documents that include the key phrase, and
determining one or more links corresponding to the identified documents.

52. The method of claim 46, wherein the determining a link includes:

sending each of the identified pieces of information to a server, and
receiving a link corresponding to each of the identified pieces of information from the server.

53. The method of claim 46, wherein the search is performed using one of a search engine or a hierarchical directory.

54. The method of claim 46, wherein the adding the links includes:

modifying the document to include the links.

55. The method of claim 46, wherein the adding the links includes:

providing a separate document that includes the links.

56. A system for supplementing a document with links to related documents, comprising:

a browser configured to identify a document; and

a browser assistant configured to

analyze the document to identify one or more pieces of information,

determine a link to a related document for each of the identified pieces of information by performing a search of a set of documents based on each of the identified pieces of information, and

provide the determined links with the document.

57. A web browser embodied in a computer-readable medium, comprising:

instructions for identifying a document;

instructions for analyzing the document to identify one or more pieces of information;

instructions for determining a link to a related document for each of the identified pieces of information by performing a search of a set of documents based on each of the identified pieces of information;

instructions for presenting the document with the determined links to a user.

58. A computer-readable medium that stores instructions executable by at least one processor to perform a method for supplementing a document with links to related documents, comprising:

instructions for identifying one or more pieces of information in the document;

instructions for determining a link to a related document for each of the identified

pieces of information by performing a search of a set of documents using each of the identified pieces of information; and

instructions for providing the determined links with the document.

59. A method for supplementing a document with links to related documents in a network that includes a client and a server, comprising:

requesting, by the client, a document;

providing, by the server, the requested document to the client;

analyzing, by the client, the requested document to identify one or more pieces of information;

determining, by the client, a link to a related document for each of the identified pieces of information by performing a search of a set of documents based on each of the identified pieces of information; and

modifying, by the client, the requested document to include the links.

60. A hypertext browser assistant embodied in a computer-readable medium, comprising:

instructions for detecting selection of one or more words in a document currently accessed by a user;

instructions for generating a search query using the selected one or more words;

instructions for retrieving a document based on the search query;

instructions for identifying one or more pieces of information in the document;

instructions for determining a link to a related document for each of the identified pieces of information by performing a search of a set of documents based on each of the identified pieces of information;

instructions for adding the links to the document;

instructions for prefetching a number of the related documents corresponding to a number of the links; and

instructions for presenting the document to the user.

61. A method for facilitating a search, comprising:

detecting selection of one or more words in a document currently accessed by a user;

generating a search query using the selected one or more words;

retrieving a document based on the search query, the document including one or more links corresponding to a linked document;

analyzing each of the links;

prefetching a number of the linked documents corresponding to a number of the links;

presenting the document to the user;

receiving selection of one of the links;

retrieving the linked document corresponding to the selected link;

identifying one or more pieces of information in the retrieved document;

determining a link to a related document for each of the identified pieces of

information by performing a search of a set of documents based on each of the identified pieces of information; and

providing the determined links with the related document to the user.

X. EVIDENCE APPENDIX

None.

XI. RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

None.